an origin of replication to direct replication of the vector in yeast.

22. The vector according to claim **21**, further comprising:

a selectable marker.

23. The vector according to claim **22**, wherein the selectable marker is selected from the group consisting of URA3, LEU2, TRP1, HIS3, ARG4, and an antibiotic resistance gene.

24. The vector according to claim **21**, further comprising:

an origin of replication to direct replication of the vector in a bacterial cell.

25. The vector according to claim **24**, wherein the origin of replication is selected from the group consisting of ColE1, Ori, and oriT.

26. The vector according to claim **21**, wherein the protein or polypeptide is preceded by a signal peptide.

27. The vector according to claim **21**, wherein the polynucleotide which encodes a protein or polypeptide is spliced in frame with a transcriptional enhancer element.

28. A method of producing a protein or polypeptide having phytase activity comprising:

providing an isolated appA polynucleotide, which encodes a protein or polypeptide with phytase activity;

expressing said polynucleotide in a yeast host cell under conditions effective to produce the protein or polypeptide having phytase activity; and

isolating the expressed protein or polypeptide.

29. The method according to claim **28**, wherein the yeast host cell is selected from the group consisting of *Saccaromyces* species, *Pichia* species, *Kluyveromyces* species, *Hansenula* species, *Candida* species, *Torulaspora* species, and *Schizosaccharomyces* species.

30. The method according to claim **29**, wherein the yeast host cell is *Pichia*.

31. The method according to claim **28**, wherein the protein or polypeptide, preceded by a signal peptide, is secreted by the cell into a growth medium or is not secreted.

32. The method according to claim **31**, wherein the protein or polypeptide is secreted by the yeast host cell into the growth medium and has a concentration greater than 300 units per milliliter of the growth medium.

33. The method according to claim **28**, wherein the appA polynucleotide is spliced in frame witha transcriptional enhancer element.

34. The method according to claim **28**, wherein the appA polynucleotide is carried on a vector for stable transformation.

35. The method according to claim **28**, wherein the appA polynucleotide is carried on an artifical chromosome.

36. The method according to claim **28**, wherein the appA polynucleotide is integrated into a chromosome of the yeast host cell.

37. The method according to claim **1**, wherein the heterologous polynucleotide is an isolated phyA polynucleotide.

38. The yeast strain according to claim **12**, wherein the heterologous polynucleotide is an isolated phyA polynucleotide.

39. The vector according to claim **21**, wherein the polynucleotide is an isolated appA polynucleotide.

40. The vector according to claim **21**, wherein the polynucleotide is an isolated phyA polynucleotide.

* * * * *